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### Judy Barkley, women's gymnastic coach at UM

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JUDY BARKLEY, WOMEN'S  
GYMNASTIC COACH AT UM  
by LINDA LOMAN  
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## sports

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Hoping for another state championship, coach Judy Barkley pits her University of Montana women's gymnastics team against its stiffest challenge in four years when UM hosts the Montana Women's Intercollegiate Sports Association Gymnastics Championships Friday and Saturday.

Barkley, in her fifth and final year as UM coach, has guided the Montana gymnasts to three consecutive state crowns. Next year she will take a leave of absence in order to pursue a doctorate at the University.

Mrs. Barkley, a graduate of the University of Nevada and Idaho State University does more than just coach the UM gymnasts. As an instructor in the Physical Education department, she conducts slim-gym and gymnastics activity courses. She has been employed by the National Summer Youth Sports Program the past two summers as the gymnastics instructor. NSYSP is sponsored jointly by the President's Council on Physical Fitness and the NCAA. In addition, she has organized and directed several gymnastics programs for Missoula schoolgirls. Recent programs have had over one hundred girls enrolled. Three years ago Mrs. Barkley was instrumental in bringing to Missoula the Southern California Acro Team featuring Cathy Rigby, a member of the U.S. Olympic Gymnastics team.

The MWISA meet begins at 5:00 p.m. Friday evening in the Recreation Complex addition to the Adams Field House. The compulsory competition is on tap for the opening session. The judging of optional routines begins Saturday at 9:00 a.m. Team scores will be tabulated for junior varsity and varsity competition. Trophies will be presented to the all-around winner at each level.

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The most serious threat to Barkley's chances for a fourth straight title may come from Eastern Montana College. Montana was defeated by EMC two weeks ago in optional competition at Bozeman. Montana State will also challenge for team honors. The MSU gymnasts have come close to beating UM in two earlier meetings. Western Montana, the fourth team entrant, will not field a varsity team.

Mrs. Barkley said that she will enter Debbie Ronish, Lewistown; Marty Lodders, Wheatridge, Colo; Kay Kilby, Great Falls; Dana Woodhouse, Chaska, Minn; and Colleen Brinkerhoff, Missoula in the varsity competition.

Comprising the junior varsity team are Stacy Towle, Helena; Kathy Sogard, Great Falls; Susan McLaughlin, Missoula; Vicki Sult, Missoula; Shelley Fopp, Great Falls; and Carol Brown, Montevallo, Alabama.

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